

White was the second of Jones; and Dr. Henderson,<sup>11</sup> of Salisbury, was the second of Johnston. Johnston did not discharge his pistol.

Yours truly

Jones is said to be in custody.

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*From James W. Bryan.*

U.

Newbern,

Feb'y 8th, 1846.

Your favour in relation to the appointment of a Notary Public at Portsmouth was succeeded by one from Mr. E. S. on the same subject, and I should have replied to your letter forthwith, but for pressing engagements, and necessary absence from home on my circuit. This matter has assumed an importance that I little thought of when I gave Capt. Hunter the letter to you. I must detail to you my connexion with the matter, for it does seem to me that it is making a mountain out of a molehill. I was in the Street here, and Capt. Hunter came up to me, and said he had been advised by Mr. Attmore to apply to me, to give him a letter to you, in aid of obtaining for himself the appointment of a Notary Public at Portsmouth, & as I understood him he said that there was no Notary there; that Mr. A. S. had removed to Hyde County. Knowing Capt. H. to be a worthy man, although he was opposed to me in politics, I had no hesitation in giving him the letter, and considered the appointment pretty much as a matter of course & an office of little or no profit or consequence, but I did not fancy, ever, that I was interfering with the rights of others, much less of being privy to making an illegal appointment. The last time Mr. A. S. was in Newbern he was exceedingly intemperate, . . . What are his habits now, I am unable to say. I have not been able to refer to the act of Congress which makes this appointment incompatible with that of Deputy Collector. I presume however that it is so, as Mr. E. S. reiterates it in his letter to me. I have however, advised Mr. Attmore, if it be so, to cure the vice of the appointment of Capt. Hunter, by inducing him to send his resignation to you; and in the meantime I will turn my attention to A.

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<sup>11</sup> Pleasant Henderson.